

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 6

BY SENATOR THOMPSON

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate James White "Slick" Ables on the occasion of his eighty-eighth birthday.

WHEREAS, James White "Slick" Ables was born in Vicksburg, Mississippi, on March 5, 1928; and

WHEREAS, he graduated from Carr Central High School in Vicksburg; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ables' desire to work with the public led him to employment with the Vicksburg Police Department until he was called to serve his country in the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, in 1950, he went to Fort Jackson, South Carolina, where he trained with the infantry; and

WHEREAS, upon completion of his training, Mr. Ables was transferred to Korea with the 14th Infantry/25th Lightning Division where he went through two winter offensives and two summer offensives; and

WHEREAS, he was awarded two Bronze Stars for heroism, the United Nations medal, the Combat Infantry Badge, and the Good Conduct Medal; and

WHEREAS, after returning home in 1954, he continued with the Vicksburg Police Department as captain of detectives and served with the Army National Guard; and

WHEREAS, while serving in the Mississippi Army National Guard, Mr. Ables attended officer training school and afterward was commissioned and promoted to 2nd Lieutenant and Commander of the 155th Infantry Company in Vicksburg; and

WHEREAS, in 1955, he joined the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol and eventually oversaw thirty-eight counties as the Northern District Public Affairs Officer; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ables worked his way through the ranks from recruit to director of several agencies within the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol, including Public Affairs, Implied Consent, Motor Vehicle Inspection, and Driver Improvement; and

WHEREAS, he later became division director of Field Operations and, in 1965, was sent to Selma, Alabama, to observe the civil rights march and learn the methods and procedures utilized by local law enforcement to diffuse problematic situations; and

WHEREAS, in June 1966, he was assigned to the Martin Luther King Jr. march as a liaison of the uniformed officers and the investigative division to assist in fingerprinting and photographing the marchers; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the Vicksburg Police Department, the United States Army, the Mississippi National Guard, and the Mississippi Highway Patrol, Mr. Ables has served his country and state with distinction and honor; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ables was selected by retired members of the Mississippi State Troopers Association to represent retired state troopers at monthly meetings of the board of trustees of the Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, he became a board member of the Mississippi Retired Public Employees' Association, where he continues to serve in that capacity; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ables merits a special measure of commendation and recognition for the tremendous pride, kindness, and sense of purpose that he brings to his family, friends, community, state, and country.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate James White "Slick" Ables on a life well lived and wishes him the best of luck as he continues his extraordinary journey on Earth.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to James White "Slick" Ables.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE